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probable, though, that it will be found that a woman will not disclose the facts to strange physicians of either sex, and in order to learn the real conditions it will be necessary to refer to all the physicians who have treated her. In any case, the experience of a great company, which has never yet been published, shows that the precautions taken in the cases of male risks presenting themselves produced a very low death rate, while precisely the same precautions in the cases of female risks resulted in a death rate so large as to cause the company to refuse to insure women on any terms.

MILES MENANDER DAWSON.

A MODEL REGISTRATION REPORT.

Beiträge zur Statistik der Stadt Frankfurt am Main. Zweites Heft. Die Bewegung der Bevölkerung im Jahre 1891, insbesondere Studien über die Wanderungen. Frankfurt am Main, 1893.

The above work on the vital statistics of Frankfurt is interesting to us not so much from the statistics contained therein as a demonstration of the minuteness and care with which vital statistics should be presented. This exhaustive report is a model of registration which might be copied with advantage by statisticians in charge of our registration reports, both of cities and of states. Our reports are not necessarily inaccurate, but they do not cover enough ground. In this review I shall limit myself to a mere enumeration of the different subjects which are here treated statistically.

The statistics of the movement of population in Frankfurt are presented in two sections. The first section deals with marriages, births, and deaths; the second with the stability of the population, including such questions as emigration and immigration, nativity and natality, etc. For clearness and simplicity I will put the different topics in a more or less tabular form, although in the original each one is treated with the greatest minuteness.

SECTION A.

This is devoted to statistics of marriages, births, and deaths during the year 1891. It includes comparisons with similar statistics of previous years.

I. *General Summary.* Here are compared the statistics of mar-

riages, births, and deaths of Frankfurt and of the entire German kingdom, of Frankfurt and Prussia, and of Frankfurt and the other large cities of Germany for the years 1886-91, inclusive. Here, too, are included statistics of marriages, births, and deaths according to months. Needless to say, the rates per 1000 are worked out in all cases.

II. *Marriages.* All questions regarding marriage which can be answered by statistics are answered here. Tables of statistics show the numbers of marriages according to the ages of the contracting parties, and according to their social conditions. Other questions, such as the percentage of marriages to the total marriageable population, differences in age, and religious relations all receive especial attention and consideration.

III. *Births.* Statistics of births are treated according to sex, vitality, and legitimacy. This is as far as most American registration reports carry the investigation. But in the Frankfurt report additional tables of statistics show: (*a*) The number of births in each of the 52 weeks of the year; (*b*) the religious creeds of the parents; (*c*) the sexual proportion of births; (*d*) the proportion of births in different years to the total number of married women in the child-bearing age; (*e*) the proportion of illegitimate births in different years to the total number of unmarried women in the child-bearing age; (*f*) a comparison, by months, between the natal statistics of Frankfurt and those of 25 other large German cities; (*g*) the local births in the different sections of the city.

IV. *Deaths.* With all of these subjects there are general summaries by which one can tell at a glance the demographical condition of a city. Exhaustive tables are given, however, in all cases, so that the conclusions can always be verified.

The total deaths and death rates are compared first with those of the other large German cities. Then follows in succession the mortality statistics according to (*a*) the different weeks and months of the year; (*b*) the meteorological conditions of the city; (*c*) the causes of death; (*d*) age and social status; (*e*) religion; (*f*) infant mortality; (*g*) the different sections of the city; and (*h*) nativity. In addition to these there are comparisons of the mortality coefficients in different age groups in Frankfurt and in other cities. Mortality statistics of native and foreign born are compared, and the subject of

mortality according to geographical position and density of population is discussed.

SECTION B.

This part of the work deals entirely with the wandering of population in Frankfurt during the year 1891, and as such does not necessarily belong to a report on vital statistics. In a city registration report, however, it is of the greatest importance, and a word or so about the plan of this part of the Frankfurt report may not be out of place.

The following subjects are minutely illustrated by tables of statistics and by summaries: (a) Emigration and immigration according to month, calling, and section of the city; (b) migration according to sex, age, and family position; (c) migration according to natality, nativity, and object of change. In addition to these topics the questions of previous habitation in Frankfurt, the length of time abroad, and the number of returns, etc., are minutely treated.

The report, with its 43 large tables, besides many lesser ones in the text, is a monument of statistical care and thoroughness, and its method of treatment is such as to make it interesting to the ordinary reader.

GARY N. CALKINS.

ILLEGITIMACY; TWO STUDIES IN DEMOGRAPHY.

Illegitimacy, and the Influence of Seasons upon Conduct; Two Studies in Demography. By Albert Leffingwell, M.D. With maps and diagrams. 2nd edition. London. Swan, Sonnenschein & Co.

The writer states that this is the first treatise on illegitimacy in the English language. Its pages are mainly devoted to a consideration of the illegitimate births in the British Islands, while the second essay presents certain phenomena of periodicity in human conduct and mental disease.

After discussing in order the different imputed causes which have prevailed, the author concludes that neither *poverty*, nor *city life*, nor *education* have had any effect upon the rate of illegitimacy. He also takes up the effect of religion, of legislative and legal impediments to marriage, and of heredity, and concludes that the factor of heredity is one of the most potent in its influence upon this departure from social morality.